

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAPE T 00829 261536Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-12 HA-05 /093 W
-----058751 261539Z /50

O R 261428Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7173
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 0829

E.O.11652:N/A
TAGS: PDEV, WA
SUB: NAMIBIA:INTERNAL REACTIONS TO SOUTH AFRICAN
ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSALS

1. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, MOST INTERNAL NAMIBIAN
GROUPS HAVE WELCOMED THE SAG DECISION TO ACCEPT THE
WESTERN SETTLEMENT PROPOSALS. DIRK MUDGE, SPEAKING AT
A SPECIAL PRESS CONFERENCE ON BEHALF OF THE DEMOCRATIC
TURNHALLE ALLIANCE, WELCOMED THE ACCEPTANCE AS "RESPONSIBLE
AND SENSIBLE." AT THE SAME TIME HE ARGUED THAT AN
ELECTION DATE SHOULD BE SET AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FOR AN
ELECTION TO BE HELD WELL BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR,
WITH OR WITHOUT SWAPO PARTICIPATION. MUDGE REPORTEDLY
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SAID HE WAS PARTICULARLY PLEASED THAT A DECISION
HAD BEEN TAKEN WHICH WOULD END THE UNCERTAINTY
PLAGUING THE TERRITORY.

2. BRAY O'LINN, SPEAKING FOR THE NAMIBIA NATIONAL
FRONT, REPORTEDLY CALLED THE DECISION A WISE ONE SINCE
THERE WAS "NO ALTERNATIVE TO THE WESTERN PLAN." HE

ADDED THAT AN ELECTION SHOULD NOT TAKE PLACE BEFORE OCTOBER. GERSON VEII OF SWANU WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THE SAG DECISION WAS THE BEST NEWS HE HAD GOTTEN IN THIRTY YEARS.

3. LESS ENTHUSIASTIC WAS A.H. DU PLESSIS OF AKTUR, WHO REFUSED TO COMMENT TO THE PRESS EXCEPT TO SAY HE WOULD TRAVEL TO CAPE TOWN ON APRIL 26 FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE PRIME MINISTER.

4. ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL STEYN ALSO REPORTEDLY REFUSED TO COMMENT TO THE PRESS.

5. SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF SWAPO, LUCIA HAMUTENYA WAS QUOTED AS WISHING THE PRIME MINISTER GOOD LUCK, BUT ADDING: "IF HE IS SERIOUSABOUT AN ELECTION, HE MUST TAKE MEASURES TO FREE MY DETAINED COMRADES."(SEPTTEL)

NELSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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